

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 2, 1998 LB 1065, 1139, 1152, 1214, 1220, 1221, 1273
 1353, 1356
 LR 45

File; (LB) 1220, (LB) 1221, General File; (LB) 1065, General File with amendments; likewise with (LB) 1139, (LB) 1273, (LB) 1353, (LB) 1356; and LB 1214 is reported indefinitely postponed. Senator Chambers has an amendment to LR 45 to be printed. (See pages 838-44 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, with respect to LB 1152, it's a bill originally introduced by Senator Schmitt. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 14 of this year. At that time, it was referred to the Government Committee. Bill was advanced to General File. There are Government Committee amendments pending, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Schmitt, you are recognized to open on LB 1152.

SENATOR SCHMITT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. I would like to ask you to do the right thing and support LB 1152. (LB) 1152 will allow a county board to adopt interim zoning regulations while they develop a permanent comprehensive development plan and zoning resolutions. Interim zoning is for two years or until a comprehensive plan and zoning resolution is adopted. Interim zoning can be used only once in a five-year period. The committee amendment adds the public hearing requirement prior to the adoption of interim zoning and requires the county board to appoint a planning commission. Why do we need LB 52...1152? Widespread construction of huge hog factories in unzoned counties, poor choice of sites, too close to towns, neighboring farms and ranches, water sources, drained directly into creeks and rivers. Unzoned counties have no control over location or size of hog factories. Counties can't depend on DEQ to protect them. DEQ is understaffed, underfunded and Title 130 regulations are too weak to really regulate huge operations. It takes six months to two years for a county to properly prepare a comprehensive development plan and zoning resolutions. These guys are rushing to get their hog factories up and running before a county is zoned. The question is, why? How many will there be out there if we don't pass this bill? What's good about LB 1152? Local control. It gives local elected officials the power to decide how their county will be developed. Zoning isn't just setbacks. It's also location, size and type of land use. Planning commissions are primarily rural people, unlikely